

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 CPR-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00

FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 INR-07 H-02 IO-10 /054 R

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APPROVED BY EUR/WE - REBARBOUR
S/PRS-JTRATTNER
EUR/P:FSEIDER

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R 220042Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 250769

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, IT

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - IPU DELEGATION

1. FOLLOWING GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN
FOR NOON BRIEFING OCTOBER 20, BUT NO QUESTIONS WERE
ASKED ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM REPORTS THAT A LEADER
OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, SERGIO SEGRE, WILL BE
VISITING THE UNITED STATES AS PART OF AN ITALIAN PARLIA-
MENTARY DELEGATION? IS HE GOING TO GET A VISA?

A: I UNDERSTAND THAT THE US DELEGATION TO THE INTER-
PARLIAMENTARY UNION (IPU) HAS INVITED THE ITALIAN DELEGA-
TION TO THE IPU TO VISIT HERE IN EARLY NOVEMBER AND THAT
MR. SEGRE IS AMONG THE PARLIAMENTARIANS NAMED BY THE
ITALIAN PARLIAMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VISIT, BUT TO MY
KNOWLEDGE, HE HAS NOT YET APPLIED FOR A VISA. IF AND WHEN
HE DOES SO, THE DEPARTMENT, AS REQUIRED BY STATUTE, WILL
THEN MAKE ANY NECESSARY DECISIONS, TAKING FULLY INTO
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CONSIDERATION THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE IMMIGRATION AND

NATIONALITY ACT OF 1952, AND THE SCOPE AND PURPOSES OF THE VISIT.

Q: ISN'T THERE ALSO A MEMBER OF THE NEO-FASCIST MSI PARTY ON THE DELEGATION?

A: I UNDERSTAND THAT A MR. LUIGI TURCHI, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE MSI PARTY, IS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE LIST SUBMITTED BY THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT.

Q: WAS SEGRE TOLD BY THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN ROME SOME MONTHS AGO THAT, IF HE APPLIED, HE WOULD BE TURNED DOWN ON A REQUEST FOR A VISA TO GO TO A COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS MEETING IN NEW YORK?

A: SEGRE DID NOT ACTUALLY APPLY FOR A VISA. I AM NOT ABLE TO COMMENT ON PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS HE MAY HAVE HAD WITH THE EMBASSY.

Q: IF HE IS GIVEN A VISA NOW UPON APPLICATION, WOULD THAT BE A CHANGE IN POLICY?

A: ON BACKGROUND. SEGRE HAD EARLIER CONTEMPLATED A TRIP TO NEW YORK TO TAKE PART IN SOME MEETINGS. I ASSUME HE WOULD HAVE BEEN TRAVELING IN THAT CASE ON COMMUNIST PARTY BUSINESS. IN THE PRESENT INSTANCE, IF MR. SEGRE APPLIES, HE WOULD PRESUMABLY BE DOING SO TO COME NOT ON COMMUNIST PARTY BUSINESS, BUT AS A MEMBER OF THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION.

Q: IS IT NOT CORRECT THAT IN PREVIOUS CASES, COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS HAVE BEEN GRANTED VISAS?

A: THERE ARE PRECEDENTS FOR THE GRANTING OF WAIVERS ON THE VISA PROHIBITION FOR COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS.

Q: HAVE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS EVER BEEN DENIED VISAS?
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A: I DON'T KNOW. WE WOULD HAVE TO GO BACK AND LOOK AT A VERY EXTENSIVE RECORD.

Q: IS THE UNITED STATES GOING TO GIVE SEGRE A VISA BECAUSE OF THE ALMIRANTE BUSINESS LAST MONTH?

HIS APPLICATION, IF HE DOES, WILL BE JUDGED ON ITS OWN

MERITS.

Q: WHAT ABOUT THE REUTER REPORT THAT THE ITALIAN IPU

DELEGATION WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE PRESIDENT AND OTHER
GOVERNMENT LEADERS DURING THEIR STAY IN WASHINGTON?

A: THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT ARE BEING MADE BY THE
US CONGRESSIONAL HOSTS (THE US IPU DELEGATION HEADED BY
CONGRESSMAN JARMAN). THE DEPARTMENT IS NOT DIRECTLY
INVOLVED, SO QUESTIONS ON ACTIVITIES PLANNED SHOULD BE
DIRECTED TO THE HOSTS. END TEXT. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LEGISLATORS, PRESS COMMENTS, INSTRUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE250769
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HGMOEN:JKB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750366-0757
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751032/aaaabcbs.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 NOV 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <21 JAN 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS GUIDANCE - IPU DELEGATION
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, IT, IPU
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006